

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough review of the present application, and respectfully requests reconsideration in light of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 22, and 25-26 are pending in the application and have been amended. Claims 2-4, 6, 9-12, 14-15, 18-21, 23-24, and 27-30 have been cancelled. The Abstract, claims, drawings and specification have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Drawings

Figures 6 and 7 have been labeled --Prior Art--, as kindly suggested by the Examiner. Thus, the objection to the drawings is believed overcome in view of the amendments made to the Figures 6 and 7. Accordingly, withdrawal of the drawing objection is respectfully requested.

Objection to Abstract

The Abstract has been revised to be compliant with commonly accepted US patent practice. The objection to the Abstract is believed overcome in view of the revisions made to the Abstract. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

Specification

All claim numbers have been deleted from the specification. The specification has been further amended to correct a slight grammatical error, as suggested by the Examiner. The objection to the disclosure is believed overcome in view of the amendments made to the specification. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 22, and 25-26 under 35 USC

112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, is noted. Claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 22, and 25-26 have been amended to remove indefiniteness and to better define the claimed invention.

In particular, the phrase "the frequency of the electrical signal inputted" has been changed to --a frequency of an electrical signal inputted-- in claims 1, 13, and 22. Similarly, the phrase "the frequency of electrical signals inputted" has been changed to --a frequency of an electrical signal inputted-- in claims 7, 16 and 25. And, for further emphasis, the phrase "the converted second outgoing light" has been changed to -- the electrical signal -- in claims 1, 7, 13, 16, 22 and 25. As supported throughout the specification, the frequency of the electrical signal inputted is generated by the second optical/electrical converting means. In claim 1, the second optical/electrical converting means outputs the electrical signal (inputted to the first light modulating means) onto the first light modulating means. Please refer to page 25, lines 10-12 of the specification, where it is recited that "The amplifier 18 amplifies the electrical signals outputted by the second optical/electrical converter 16 and inputs them into the first light modulator 15." Additionally, the unnecessary phrase "of given frequencies" has been deleted from claims 1, 8, 13, 17, 22, and 26. Correspondingly, to maintain proper antecedent basis, the phrase "the frequency of said reference electrical signals" has been changed to --a frequency of said reference electrical signals -- in claims 1, 8, 13, 17, 22, and 26. Further, a number of other amendments have been made to insure proper antecedent basis throughout the claims.

The Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 22, and 25-26 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is believed overcome in view of the above amendments to the claims, which include no new matter. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 5, 7-8, 13, 16-17, 22, and 25-26 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Conclusion

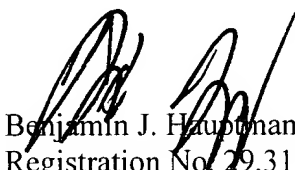
Each of the Examiner's objections/rejections has been overcome. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 6 and 7. In Replacement Figures 6 and 7, which replace original Figures 6 and 7, the legend --Prior Art-- has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets